

of the above parties. He was, indeed, unremitting in his exertions, and at one time was absent from his home, on a mission to one of the agents of this government, more than a month, to procure for the use of the army and salt-water of Little Basso, for important services rendered our commissioners while employed in the above mentioned mission. It is hereby to record my acknowledgements for valuable assistance rendered the government in this delicate and important mission, to the following gentlemen: Crocker, May, whose indefatigable exertions greatly facilitated the efforts of the government, in speedily securing the water required for the use of the above country. I am gratified in being able to state that the expense incurred by the government in settling the above mentioned mission, was defrayed by the unpaid citizens of Grand Bassa county, by voluntary contributions. The balance was paid from the public treasury, and I beg to assure you will find entered in the treasurer's accounts.

I regret to have to inform you, gentlemen, that the same success has not attended similar efforts of the Government to bring about a peace between the Yuma and the Gila. At the earnest solicitation of a number of the chiefs, Vaya, Golahe, and Deyu, I appointed a commission, consisting of three persons, to investigate the causes of the war, to propose means for arranging and settling the disputes existing between the several parties occupying that territory, and, if possible, put an end to the war, which was waged between the Yuma and the Gila. I was, however, prevented from doing so by the outbreak between a part of the Vaya and Golahe tribes. But I am sorry to say after an absence of several weeks, the commissioners returned without being able to accomplish their mission. I have, therefore, to inform you that the causes of their failure you will find fully set forth in their report, which will be laid before you. I beg, however, to recommend that further and immediate efforts be made to bring about a peace between those disputing and to terminate this war.

I have the honor, herewith, to lay before you, for your consideration, a communication I received a few weeks since from the chiefs of Timbo, asking the protection of this government, and to be received within its jurisdiction, a vast association of the tribes of the territory to the republic, by requesting that the late Buckner—who some years ago settled among them but has since succeeded in collecting around him a large force of armed men—be expelled from the country, and threatens the extermination of the original inhabitants, and who has recently committed, with impunity, several cruel murders in the country—be moved from the same.

I beg also to submit to your consideration the propriety of adopting measures to relieve the authorities of the Grand Chiriqui, who are being oppressed by German Grando, who by some means has obtained an influence in that country—though himself a Pickaniny One-man—who he exerts improperly by causing the death of several of the natives, and by exhibiting a very bad character—among the people, which greatly interrupts friendly intercourse, and does a little retard the progress of civilization among the inhabitants of the district.

One Mr. David Murray, the agent of Messrs. Laurie, Hamilton & Co. London a few months since, landed a quantity of merchandise at certain points on our coast in direct violation of said law, at the same time informing the inhabitants that he had received express instructions from his employer not to acknowledge the authority of the Liberian government over said points of territory, and that the government, or its officers if they thought proper to assume the responsibility, might seize his vessel and the goods thus landed.

Upon this information from the officers of the revenue—who, understanding the policy of the government—and anxious themselves to avoid any collision with the law—made a statement to me, and endeavored to compel obedience to the laws comminated the facts to the Treasury Department, and asked to be instructed as to the course they should pursue—I addressed a note to Captain Murray stating to him my reasons for so to avoid the necessity of joining the party, and calling his attention to an interview I had had with him in the early part of the year, on the subject of the jurisdiction of this government. At which time he assured me that, in future, he would give the law full supply, and would give no further cause of complaint. In reply to which, I received from Captain Murray, on the 23d of October, the following:—

say, that I am instructed by Messrs. Laurie, Hamilton & Co., not to pay any dutiable goods to be landed on the Kroo coast, they having laid their claim to exemption therefrom before Viscount Palmerston and from a copy of a letter received by them, bearing date the 2d July, 1860, Commodore Fennhawe had been instructed to institute inquiries into the matter, and he may be expected up in all this month for that purpose.

It had already been intimated to me that representations had been made to Her Majesty's government respecting the exercise of jurisdiction, by this government, over certain territories on our leeward coast, and that the latter had been asked to remove all restrictions upon British commerce, and that Commodore Fanning would probably visit Liberia soon to ascertain the facts in relation to these representations. I was accordingly desirous to see him, and especially to convince British merchants of our desire to cultivate and maintain a good understanding with them. I informed Captain Murray that compulsory measures would not be resorted to until I had

and the most able and energetic of writers of the time. In the meantime, the Government would hold him responsible for the duties of a sovereign on all goods which might land within its jurisdiction, and that it would not be difficult for me to prove, in the most convincing manner to Commodore Fannhwa as well as to all readers, as by the authorities of the best authors who have written on the law of nations, and the judgment of civilized States in general, the right of this government to exercise sovereignty over the territory in question.

On the 11th ultimo, I received a despatch from Commodore Fanninghwa informing me that he had been directed by his Government to visit Liberia for the purpose of conferring with the authorities respecting the complaints which have been made by British merchants who occupy trading establishments on the coast of Liberia, but in consequence of circumstances of considerable importance on the southern part of his command, he could not, at an early period, visit Monrovia in person. He has, however, had the pleasure of seeing Commander Patten, the senior officer of the division of her Majesty's cruisers on the north coast, to confer with this government on these matters.

Captain Patten, of her Majesty's brig Hood, arrived here on the 18th ultimo, and entered immediately upon the investigation of the various complaints of Messrs. Laurie Hamilton & Co., London, who appear to be the principal complainants, and who certainly have lodged a charge and an unreasonable charge and an accusation against the Librarian authorities.

It is praiseworthy indeed, I will not doubt, that these gentlemen, acting upon statements made to them by their agent, believed that they were making correct and truthful representations of her Majesty's government. It is to be regretted, however, that they have been misled, and that such statements—without apparently giving themselves the least trouble to ascertain the real facts of the case.

Full explanations of the several items of complaints were furnished to Capt. Patton, and every facility afforded to him to investigate and report on the various charges and imputations that have been preferred and insinuated against the government and people of Liberia. No one could be more particular and diligent in his inquiries. He has reported all the complaints referred to, then was Capt. Patton. And I have great satisfaction in being able to inform the Legislature that he expressed himself fully satisfied with the conduct of the government. No other complaint has been made to her Majesty's government, in which great justice has been done, the authorities and people of this republic, and distinctly condemn the conduct of Captain Murray in resisting the laws of this government.

Gentlemen—In view of the primary importance of providing every facility for conveying the law into the minds of the people, and of rendering the administration of justice as convenient to the people as may consist with their present circumstances, I cannot resist once more, to recommend to your serious consideration the judiciary system of the nation. The progress of our political condition is more and more pressing than this to our public happiness, and to none can these improvements which have been suggested by experience be more so than actually applied.

The completion of the late act of Congress as authorized by the President, I regret to say is not yet accomplished to the extent of your wishes. I ask the appointment of a committee of the legislature to examine the work as far as it has gone.

The importance of agriculture, as an efficient contributor to the welfare and prosperity of the human family, and especially of the people of Liberia is so fully recognized and understood, that I deem it quite unnecessary for me to urge upon you, at any length its claims to all the aid and encouragement it may be in your power to give to every well-directed effort for its improvement. It cannot be doubted that the cultivation of the earth, with other branches of rural economy, supply the main principle in the very life blood to every other department of human industry.

With respect to common schools, and the importance of extending the means of education, I feel that I cannot do better than to invite your attention to what I had the honor of communicating to the Legislature, on this subject, at its last session. I am quite sensible of the feeling of the Legislature with regard to the extension of the facilities of education; and I exceedingly regret, gentlemen, the pecuniary disability which still exists and which, alone, I am sure, prevents your doing all that you desire to do for the

promotion of useful knowledge, that no number
source of much gratification to know that our friends are
interested in the United States in this re-
spect, especially in our beloved Rhode Island, the value
of such assistance will be realized in the education of
the youth of this Republic from various missionary
schools in the United States you are doubtless
aware gentlemen that an association has been formed
in Boston U.S. and has been chartered by the Legisla-
ture of the State of Massachusetts, for the purpose
of receiving and managing the funds, and the general

re-appears and plans a marriage in Liberia. A member of the corporation, in a letter to me, dated June last, says: "We shall soon need a free communication of your views on this subject of education, on all points that may occur to you. It is obvious that a charter from your government will be needed for the projected college with suitable ground or such buildings may be required, and such patronage and aid towards the erection, building, and maintenance of the college. We shall be glad if the government may be able to bestow. We shall at once do nothing more than collect and in-

vest funds, until we receive a communication of your mind on the subject. Whether the instructors shall be appointed by our board of trustees with the concurrent approval of your government or by the latter alone; or by the corporation to be chartered in Liberia, are questions which you will provide, and I leave to you with your minds. In reply to your communication I have assured the government that every facility that this government can afford for carrying out the important objects of his board, will readily be granted. At the same time, intimated to him the embarrassed state of our public finances, and but little, if any, pecuniary assistance will be granted, but rendered by